

Part of the purpose of a PPEA is to obtain creative solutions from vendors who have significant experience in a particular problem area of interest to the state. We are looking for good ideas to get away from our stovepipe systems and into an integrated environment. The technical information we recently provided should give you an idea of the most significant applications and their purposes.

Like all state agencies, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) is required to follow and will be compliant with the Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) enterprise architectural policies, standards, and guidelines. These are available in the documents section of the VITA website ([www.vita.virginia.gov](http://www.vita.virginia.gov)). VDSS applications that are not compliant today (or will not be compliant in the future) must be addressed. We have not determined which applications, if any, will be migrated or replaced first. Integrated systems enterprise architecture has not been determined; however, there is some value in reducing the number of major technical platforms used by our applications. There are no preferences or political advantages for any particular vendor product.

VDSS has assigned the "Goal 3 Steering Committee to "Ensure an integrated, effective information technology (IT) system." As reflected in its name, this steering committee is addressing the 3<sup>rd</sup> goal of the department business strategic plan. The Goal 3 Steering Committee is co-chaired by one state business manager and one locality (county) director. The committee consists of both state and locality managers.

The purpose, requirements (including new functionality), and desired impact of system integration on business processes will be determined by the business managers. Interviews with business, IT, and/or financial managers or other staff may be requested from and coordinated through the Commissioner's office.